

VZCZCXRO9055  
PP RUEHCI  
DE RUEHKT #0249 0840638  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 250638Z MAR 09  
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9983  
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 6891  
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 7209  
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 2530  
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 5253  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 6403  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 0117  
RUEHSI/AMEMBASSY TBILISI 0028  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 2956  
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA 4545  
RHMFISS/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 3464

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 000249

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/25/2019  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [PBTS](#) [GG](#) [RS](#) [KV](#) [NP](#)  
SUBJECT: NEPAL: NO POSITION ON RUSSIAN RECOGNITION OF  
ABKHAZIA AND SOUTH OSSETIA AS INDEPENDENT STATES

REF: STATE 24186

Classified By: Ambassador Nancy J. Powell. Reasons 1.4 (b/d).

¶1. (C) On March 24, Pradhumna B. Shah, Joint Secretary for Europe and the Americas at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), told Emboff that the Government of Nepal would not formulate a policy regarding Russia's recognition of South Ossetia and Abkhazia as independent states, or on Russia's intent to establish bases in these regions, unless it became an issue put to the United Nations for a vote. Drawing from talking points provided in reftel, Emboff shared the U.S. rejection of Russia's decision. Shah said that if the situation were to reach the highest international level, the MFA would consult with Nepal's mission to the UN in New York before recommending a policy to the cabinet. The Joint Secretary did not draw a parallel to Kosovo, although post has frequently encouraged the GON to recognize Kosovo's independence.  
POWELL